



Viaduct Federation of Schools



Year 3 Curriculum Newsletter

Dear Parent / Carer

Welcome to Bushfield and to a brand new school year. We have an exciting Autumn Term planned for Year 3. We have already started to get to know your children and they are settling into Bushfield life well. You will have an opportunity to meet with your child's class teacher in October's consultation meetings, but if any issues arise in the meantime please do not hesitate to contact school and arrange an appointment. Our themes this term will be Ancient Britain and Brazil.

Subject Overviews

English

This half term we will be using the book, 'Stone Age Boy' by Satoshi Kitamura, taking part in drama activities and debates before writing our own narrative about the Stone Age which links to our topic. We will also be using the book as a stimulus for writing instructions. After half term we will be writing poems and non-chronological reports about the rainforest. Across the Autumn term we will also work on grammar, reading skills, spelling and handwriting which includes getting used to writing in pen.

Maths

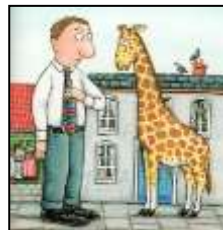
In maths we will begin by looking at place value of numbers. This will then lead on to developing written methods starting with addition and subtraction before moving onto multiplication and division. We will also be helping the children to develop their problem solving skills and their ability to link mathematical learning. During this term, the children will also look at measure starting with the units used to measure length, weight and capacity as well as learning how to tell the time. We will be consolidating their previous learning about pictograms, fractions and 2D shape. In mental maths we will be concentrating on our times tables. Initially, our target tables will be 2x, 5x, and 10x, moving onto 3x and 4x later in the term.

Science

We will begin our science by learning about animals and humans. We will be comparing human and animal skeletons and learning about how the muscles work. We will also discuss healthy eating and balanced diets. After half term, we will have the chance to learn about magnets and forces where we will investigate how strong different magnets are and classify materials based on their levels of magnetism.

Computing

In computing we will begin with how to use the internet safely and learn how to compose emails. We will then link with our English topic to create a fact file on animals of the rainforest. We will learn how to copy and paste images and use them to best effect with text.



Be the best you can be.

Topic (History and Geography)

In history we will be learning about Ancient Britain from the Stone Age to the Iron Age. We will look at how their communities worked, what they ate and wore and how they began to use tools and different materials. In geography we will be developing our map and atlas skills in order to locate rainforests around the world. We will investigate which rainforest products we use in everyday life and compare the lives of those who live in rainforests to our own lives.

Art

After half term we start our art studies by looking at the work of Frida Khalo before creating our own collages based on her techniques.

PSHE

We start the year by exploring the different types of relationships we have with different people. We look at the characteristics of friendship and how to be a good friend as well as looking at courtesy, manners and mutual respect which links with both the British Values and our school ethos.

Design Technology (DT)

In DT we will be exploring the types of shelters built by and used by people in Ancient Britain. We will use this information to design and make our own shelter using these techniques.

RE

This year all of our RE will be centred around Christianity under the themes of Believing, Belonging and Behaving.

PE & Games

On Tuesday morning the children will have a 45 minute indoor PE lesson and a 45 minute outdoor PE lesson. Indoor PE this term will focus on gymnastics and dance. The outdoor session will be outdoor adventurous activities and multi-skills. In games, on Thursday afternoon, the children will be focusing on football and hockey. In games the children will be taught in ability groups to allow everyone to learn appropriate skills and to be challenged effectively. This will take us through until Christmas.

PE Kit Reminder: We strongly recommend that your child bring in their full PE kit on a Monday morning and leave it in school until Friday afternoon. This will reduce the number of occasions where children forget their PE kit for lessons.

Music

In Year 3 we have a specialist music teacher, Mrs Yeo. First the children will learn how to sing and what makes an effective performance. Pitch, tone, harmony and dimensions of music will be explored. Then they will link their learning about the rainforests in Brazil to music by composing soundscapes using body percussion. They will also start looking at using the djembe drums.

French

French will be taught throughout the year by Mrs Coffey who uses a range of games, rhymes, songs and role-play to immerse the children in the language. The children will begin by learning simple greetings and introductions. Then they will be exploring the language and developing their confidence through an interactive story called 'Milo's adventures in the rainforest' which links to our topic.

Assessment

Each term the children will complete a set of assessment papers, which includes maths, reading, grammar, spelling and writing assessments. We use the results to inform our planning and to identify children who need additional support. We also report the results to you at Parents' Evening so you can see the progress your child is making.

Homework

Reading

We ask that children read each day for 10 minutes. Each child in Year 3 will be issued with a level appropriate reading book provided by school. It really helps their progress if they are heard regularly at home and we would be grateful if you could initial their Personal Log each time you hear them.

Maths

To support the times tables check which happens nationally in Year 4, the children will be given time in school to practise their times tables and will be tested regularly. They will be given a login for programme called Times Tables Rock Stars, which they can use to practise at home. The teachers will set the homework through this programme.

Spellings

The children will be set a new spelling list to learn once a week on a Wednesday. Their new lists are glued into their personal logs and they will be tested the following week. We find that practising for a few minutes everyday really helps the children to learn and remember their spelling patterns and rules.

Topic

We also set a homework project per topic which enables the children to further explore their learning. The children are encouraged to complete this homework and we share all of the projects with the whole year group.

Children are encouraged to complete their homework because it reinforces the learning which takes place in school and is another opportunity to practise the skills they have learned. Those who complete their homework regularly and to a good standard will earn rewards.

Snack

Please remember to pack a healthy snack for your child to eat at playtime.

[Year group info- pictures below from left to right:](#)

- **Head of Year 3** – Mrs J Thomas
- **Teachers:** Mrs A Snowdon, Mrs M Batchelor, Mrs S Sparshott- Dzialosznski
- **Teaching Assistants:** Mrs M Haith, Miss V Young, Mrs D Preston, Mrs Downs
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Items to remember

- Practise TT Rockstars twice per week
- Spellings - spelling test each Wednesday
- Reading – read for 10 minutes each day
- PE Kit – children should arrive to school in suitable kit for the time of year – label all clothing and water bottles

Useful websites

- www.linguafun.eu—for French
 - www.oxfordowl.co.uk
 - Login: Y3 Fir Class (if your child is in one of the other classes, use that class name instead)
 - Password: reading
 - www.trockstars.com—for times tables
 - www.edshed.com—for spelling practice through games
- Your children have logins for both of these websites. If you don't have them, we can remind you of the details.*

Upcoming Events in Autumn

- Residential Information Evening
- Parents' Evening
- Maths and Reading Information Evening
- Year 3 Living Rainforest Trip

Did you know we now have a Facebook page?

We have created a Facebook page which will show any news and events across the Viaduct Federation of schools, it is titled 'The Bushfield and Wyvern Viaduct Federation of Schools'. Like us and keep up to date with any fun school events and news!

